

RESPONSE
OF
THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA,
IN ANSWER

To the resolutions of the State of Vermont on the subject of slavery and the war with Mexico.

MARCH 21, 1848.

Ordered to lie on the table, and be printed.

Response of the General Assembly of the State of Alabama to the preamble and resolutions of the State of Vermont on the subject of slavery and of the war with Mexico.

The State of Alabama deems it proper to respond in a respectful manner to the preamble and resolutions of the State of Vermont. In thus responding, Alabama, as a sovereign State of the American Union, formed its opinions on the subject of slavery at the adoption of the constitution and the admission of the State into the Union. This opinion has never been changed, nor has any opinion expressed either by the citizens in their private intercourse, in their popular assemblages or General Assembly, upon the subject of slavery, been changed, nor will it be retracted. So far as the war with Mexico is concerned, we regard all honorable efforts to conclude a speedy peace with that republic as having been made by the President of the United States. We regard the war as one of necessity, for the protection of the rights of American citizens, and which could not be avoided without a faithless violation of their rights by the Chief Magistrate of the nation. This question has been settled by Congress in 1846; and whilst Alabama refuses to be fickle upon a subject of so much importance to the honor of nations, Vermont may.

Therefore be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Alabama in General Assembly convened, That his excellency the governor of this State send to the governor of every State in this Union a copy of the foregoing response, as well as to our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

L. P. WALKER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JNO. A. WINSTON,
President of the Senate.

RESPONSE

THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

IN ANSWER

To the resolutions of the State of Vermont on the subject of slavery and
your anti-slavery

March 31, 1843

Presented to the Senate and House of Representatives

of the General Assembly of the State of Alabama to the printed
and resolutions of the State of Vermont on the subject of slavery and
of the anti-slavery

The State of Alabama deems it proper to respond in a respectful
manner to the honorable and resolutions of the State of Vermont, in
true response. Alabama is a sovereign State of the American Union,
formed its position on the subject of slavery in the adoption of the
constitution and the admission of the State into the Union. This was
not the subject of controversy, nor has any opinion expressed either by
the citizens in their private intercourse, in their political associations,
or General Assembly, upon the subject of slavery, been changed, nor
will it be so. So far as the war with Mexico is concerned, we
regard all honorable efforts to conclude a speedy peace with that republic
as having been made by the President of the United States. We regard
the war as one of necessity, for the protection of the rights of American
citizens and which could not be avoided without a reckless violation of
their rights by the United States of the nation. This question has been
settled by Congress in 1845, and while Alabama refuses to do this upon
a subject of so much importance to the honor of nations, Vermont says,
"There is no slavery in the State and those of Massachusetts of
the State of Vermont, formerly opposed, but in the execution
of the State of Vermont, send to the Governor of every State in the
United States of the following response, as well as to our Senators and
Representatives in Congress."

J. P. WALKER

Speaker of the House of Representatives

JNO. A. WINSTON

President of the Senate